

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. - 47. Canceled

48. (Currently Amended) A moving picture decoding apparatus, comprising:  
a memory for storing a previously decoded image as reference image used for  
generating a prediction picture;

a prediction picture generation section, receiving indication information  
indicating one of a plurality of deformation methods and a motion parameter extracted  
from a bit stream, said the prediction picture generation section identifying one of the  
deformation methods based on the indication information, and generating the prediction  
picture using the reference image based on the identified deformation method, and the  
deformation method indicated by the indication information, the deformation method  
being applied to the reference image so as to by transforming transform a portion of the  
reference image portion-geometrically-based on the deformation method; and

a decoding section for decoding a texture from the bit stream, and adding the  
texture to the prediction picture generated by the prediction picture generation section so  
as to obtain a decoded image.

49. (Previously Presented) The moving picture decoding apparatus of claim 48,  
wherein the plurality of deformation methods that are indicated by the indication  
information and used by the prediction picture generation section to generate the  
prediction picture include a parallel translation transform method, an affine transform  
method and a perspective transform method.

50. (Previously Presented) The moving picture decoding apparatus of claim 48,  
further comprising:

a plurality of memories for storing the reference image, each of the plurality of  
memories corresponding to at least one of the deformation methods,

wherein the prediction picture generation section generates the prediction picture based on the reference image stored in a memory of the plurality of memories which corresponds to the deformation method indicated by the indication information.

51. (Currently Amended) A moving picture decoding method, comprising:  
storing a previously decoded image as a reference image for generating a prediction picture;  
receiving indication information indicating one of a plurality of deformation methods and a motion parameter extracted from a bit stream;

identifying one of the deformation methods based on the indication information;  
generating the prediction picture using the reference image based on the  
identified deformation method, and the deformation method indicated by the indication  
information—the deformation method being applied to the reference image by—so as to  
transforming—transform a portion of the reference image portion—geometrically-based on  
the deformation method; and

decoding a texture from the bit stream, and adding the texture to the prediction picture generated by said generating step so as to obtain a decoded image.

52. (Previously Presented) The moving picture decoding method of claim 51, wherein the plurality of deformation methods that are indicated by the indication information and used by the generating step to generate the prediction picture include a parallel translation transform method, an affine transform method and a perspective transform method.

53. (Previously Presented) The moving picture decoding method of claim 51, further comprising:

generating the prediction picture based on the reference image stored in a plurality of memories, each of the plurality of memories corresponding to at least one of the deformation methods.